



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Director

March 24, 2017

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol Building, room 124  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **AB 818** (Burke) – As Introduced February 15, 2017 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Chairwoman Gonzalez Fletcher:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 818, which would eliminate barriers for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Welfare-to-Work participants to obtain a high school education or its equivalent.

CalWORKs provides basic cash assistance and Welfare-to-Work services to low-income families. Adult recipients are limited to 24 months of flexibility, while utilizing the 24-Month Time Clock, unless they are meeting federal work participation requirements or other statutory time clock extenders. It can be difficult for recipients to achieve their high school education and subsequently participate in additional education or training to further their employment goals within this 24-month time frame.

AB 818 allows CalWORKs participants who are in the process of obtaining, or who have recently obtained, their high school equivalency, to continue participating in welfare-to-work activities designed to move them to self-sufficiency. The bill extends the 24-Month Time Clock for those who are making satisfactory progress but need additional time to complete a high school equivalency as well as for those who have recently done so but need additional time to complete a subsequent activity. These changes allow a participant's 24-Month Time Clock to be used for additional training, education, and work activities that can lead to better employment options and economic stability.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports AB 818. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or [jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lovingood".

Robert Lovingood  
First District Supervisor  
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: The Honorable Autumn Burke

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